

Message Text

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LIMDIS FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AORG, APER, UNHCR

SUBJECT: UNHCR DEPUTY POST

REF: GENEVA 04520

1. ON MARCH 24 THE SECRETARY SIGNED FOLLOWING LETTER TO
POUL HARTLING, UNHCR:

QUOTE - DEAR MR. HIGH COMMISSIONER:

I WAS VERY PLEASED TO SEE YOU LAST MONTH AND FOUND
OUR DISCUSSIONS MOST USEFUL.

THE PHOTOGRAPHS THAT WERE TAKEN WHILE YOU WERE HERE
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ARE ENCLOSED. I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM.

WITH REGARD TO YOUR SELECTION OF A DEPUTY WE WILL BE
FORWARDING TO YOU SHORTLY TWO NOMINATIONS FOR YOUR CONSI-
DERATION. I FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT BOTH THE CHOICE OF CAN-
DIDATES AND THE POST YOU DECIDE TO FILL WITH AN AMERICAN
ARE YOUR PREROGATIVES. I WOULD, HOWEVER, LIKE TO EXPRESS

OUR STRONG AND CONTINUING DESIRE FOR YOU TO SELECT AN AMERICAN AS YOUR DEPUTY.

I KNOW THE PRESSURES YOU ARE UNDER TO APPOINT A NON-AMERICAN. HOWEVER, THE SELECTION OF AN AMERICAN IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN OUR ABILITY TO SUPPORT THE UNHCR AND THE VITAL PROGRAMS WHICH YOU CARRY OUT WORLDWIDE AND WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE UNHCR. I FEAR THAT RELEGATING AN AMERICAN TO A LESSER POSITION COULD HINDER US IN SEEKING THE SUPPORT WHICH YOU REQUIRE, PARTICULARLY FROM OUR CONGRESS. AS YOU KNOW, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN ABOUT A DECLINING U.S. PRESENCE IN UNITED NATIONS SENIOR POSTS.

I KNOW THAT YOU WILL TAKE THESE VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION IN ARRIVING AT YOUR DECISION AND HOPE YOU WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO SELECT AN AMERICAN AS YOUR DEPUTY.
SINCERELY YOURS, CRYUS R. VANCE END QUOTE.

2. LETTER BEING POUCHED TO AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL FOR DELIVERY TO HARTLING. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR AUTHORIZED CONTACT HARTLING ASAP - AND BEFORE HE MAKES OTHER ARRANGEMENT ON DEPUTY POST - TO CONVEY TO HIM CONTENTS OF SECRETARY'S LETTER.

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3. IN SO DOING, ADDITIONAL POINTS YOU MAY MAKE TO HARTLING ARE:

-- WE BELIEVE THAT OTHER MAJOR DONORS WOULD CONTINUE TO VALUE HIGHLY AN AMERICAN DEPUTY, SINCE SUCH AN APPOINTMENT WOULD UNDERSCORE THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO THE UNHCR PROGRAM.

-- WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT RECIPIENT COUNTRIES WILL LOOK FAVORABLY ON AN AMERICAN DEPUTY. THEY WILL BE AWARE THAT THEIR NEEDS ARE UNDERSTOOD BY ONE WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH OUR SYSTEM OF PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES. THEY WILL BE ASSURED THAT THEIR REQUIREMENTS ARE GIVEN, UNDER HIS DIRECTION, APPROPRIATE U.S. ATTENTION.

-- HARTLING HAS MENTIONED STRONG PRESSURES FROM AFRICAN COUNTRIES FOR HIM TO APPOINT SOMEONE FROM AFRICA AS HIS DEPUTY. PERHAPS THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SYG WALDHEIM HAS SELECTED AMBASSADOR KENNETH DADZIE OF GHANA AS DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT - THE SECOND RANKING POST IN THE UN SECRETARIAT - WILL MITIGATE THOSE PRESSURES. ALSO, AS MISSION POINTS OUT IN PARA 3 REFTTEL, AFRICAN PRESSURES MAY

HAVE ERODED. VANCE

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